GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2687
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2000
DECLINE IN PRODUCTION OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the production of Crude Oil and Natural Gas during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is a sharp decline in the production in the oilfields managed by Oil and Natural Gas Commission;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the production of these products in the next few years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)
(a) The production of crude oil and natural gas during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Crude Oil (MMT)	Gas (MMSCM)
1996-97	32.90	23255
1997-98	33.85	26402
1998-99	32.72	27428

MMT: Million Metric Tonnes
MMSCM: Million Standard cubic Metres.

(b & c): There has been a marginal decline in production of crude oil by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).The main reasons for marginal decline in crude oil production are as under:-

(i) The major oil fields including Bombay High, are entering the natural declining phase with age.

(ii) No significant or major oil field has been found for the last several years.

(iii) Continued environment problems in ERBC and its cascading effect has resultedin less base potential due to subdued drilling and work over activities.

(iv) Erratic power supply from State Electrcity Board in WRBC (Gujarat) and ERBC(Assam) affects the artificial lift systems.

(d): Steps taken to increase production of crude oil are:-

(i) Optimizing production from existing fields through better reservoir management, 3-D seismic surveys, infill drilling, pressure maintenance, installation/optimisation of artificial lift system and use of advanced and cost effective technologies and improvement in recovery factor.

(ii) Faster development of newly discovered oilfields.

(iii) Finding new hydrocarbon reserves through intensified exploration activities such as- - Exploration at greater depths in existing fields. - Extending exploration activities to deep waters and frontier areas. - Increased private participation in exploration activities through implementation of New Exploration Licensing Policy.